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30 July 1964

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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[South Vietnam] A South Vietnamese cabinet minister has told a US Embassy officer that he is in touch with the Viet Cong on the possibility of a negotiated settlement.]

[Le Van Hoach, minister of state in the Khanh cabinet, stated on 28 July that he has contacted the Viet Cong on his own authority because he feels that some means of ending the war has to be found. He said that he intends to inform General Khanh of his preliminary talks when he has a "package" of Viet Cong terms.]

[Hoach, an elderly politician prominent in colonial days, ostensibly was appointed to the cabinet to represent the Cao Dai sect. He apparently has had few ministerial duties beyond trying to rally support from the Cao Dai and Hoa Hao factions.]

[Hoach's soundings among the Viet Cong may have been unknown to Khanh, or regarded as inconsequential. It is also possible that his statement was intended to test US reaction. The Khanh government might hope that such hints of negotiation would encourage the US to support its campaign for military action against North Vietnam.]

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DAILY BRIEF

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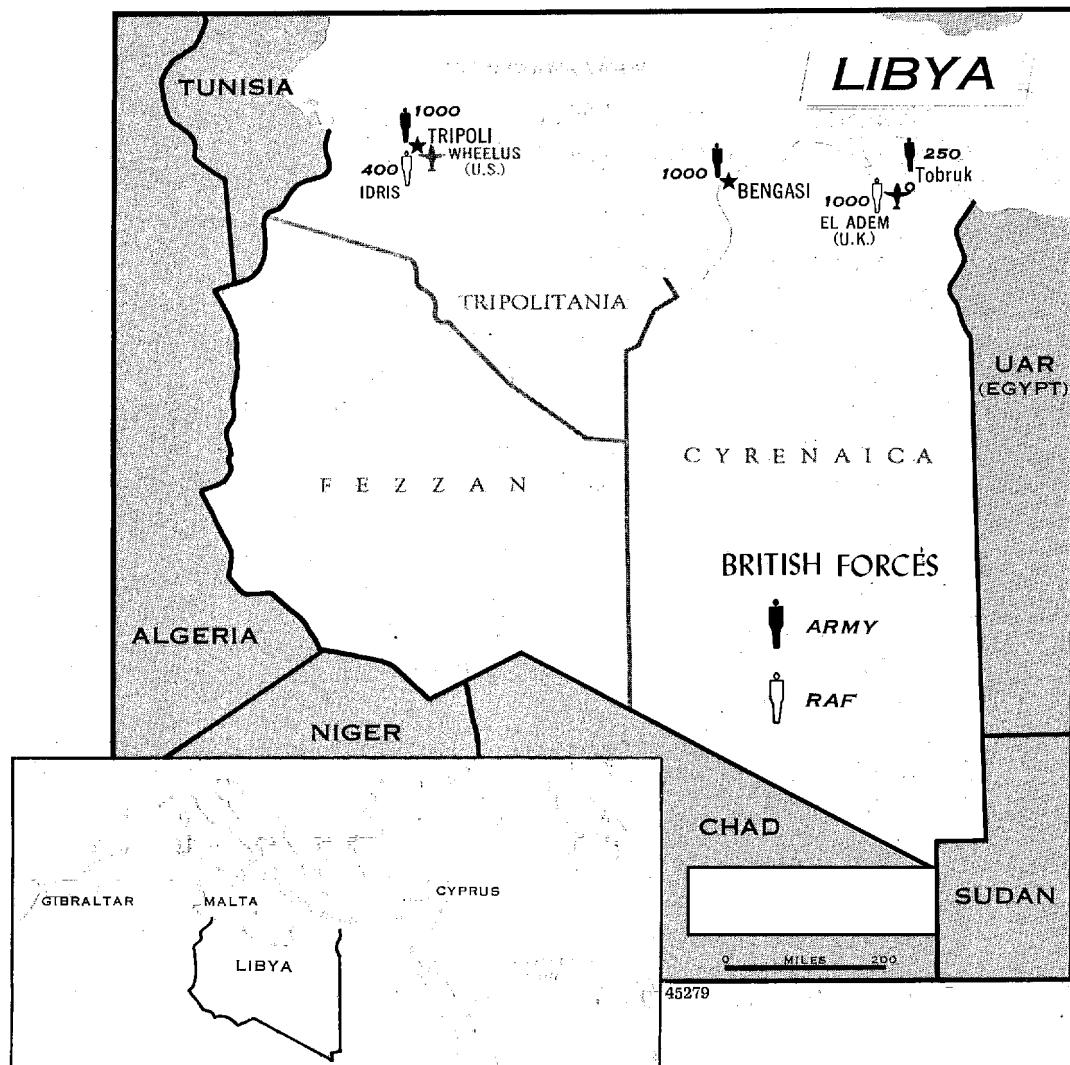
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UK-Libya: [Britain is willing to offer Libya further concessions in order to keep its transit and staging rights at the strategic El-Adem air base.]

[According to the British Embassy in Washington, the Foreign Office has given UK Ambassador Sarell discretion to propose to the Libyan foreign minister a new timetable for the withdrawal of British garrisons from Tripoli and Benghazi.]

[The British would withdraw the 1,000-man garrison at Tripoli by the end of 1965 and the Benghazi garrison of similar size after two years. In addition to keeping their air base rights, the British probably hope to get Libya's agreement not to annul the Anglo-Libyan defense treaty of 1953. King Idris has indicated he wants British troops to remain until this treaty expires in 1973.]

[The British are interested in retaining the El-Adem base particularly because of its importance in maintaining the British air route to Malaysia.]

[The British Embassy in Baida reportedly believes that London should dissociate itself from the US negotiating position on bases in order to achieve its goal at El-Adem.]

[It is likely that the Libyans will use any British concessions as leverage in the negotiations over the US base at Wheelus.]

Tanganyika-Zanzibar: Progress toward closer union of Zanzibar and Tanganyika continues to be very slow.

President Nyerere returned to Dar es Salaam last week end after three weeks in London and Cairo. He had insisted that Vice President Karume accompany him to the Commonwealth and Organization of African Unity conferences in the hope that exposure to the outside world would help educate the Zanzibar leader to the advantages of union and the disadvantages of undue dependence on the Communists. The success of this experiment is doubtful, even though the new Union flag has at last replaced that of Zanzibar on the island's government buildings.

Despite Nyerere's efforts to get them off the island, many young pro-Communists remain on Zanzibar. Some may still have Karume's ear and a number are still in positions where they can influence Zanzibari ministers. [Leftists are reported to be urging gradual nationalization of all private business on the island.]

[Soviet and Chinese Communist advisers are continuing to train units of the Zanzibar Army. Nyerere and Foreign Minister Kambona are considering bringing them to the mainland in order to limit their activities.]

The East German Embassy on Zanzibar has ignored both the Union government's directive to reduce foreign missions to consular status and a two-week extension of the deadline for doing so. The East Berlin radio claims that on 28 July Karume asserted that "no one" could "destroy" East German - Zanzibari friendship.

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